

PROCLAMATION

SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) Week

WHEREAS, Oregon has long recognized the importance of programs that prevent serious future problems, reduce public cost and allow children to grow into healthy, productive adults; and

WHEREAS, Oregon communities recognize the need for each generation to take care of the next and that all children, whether our own, our neighbors, or children we don't know, are our collective responsibility; and

WHEREAS, The SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) book and reading program is Oregon's leading community-based volunteer program dedicated to increasing literacy among elementary school students; and

WHEREAS, The SMART program served more than 11,000 children throughout Oregon during the 2003-04 school year and served more than 77,000 children since the program started 12 years ago; and

WHEREAS, It is important to the future of Oregon to:

- ♦ develop confident and enthusiastic readers who can read at grade level by the time they leave elementary school,
- ♦ increase the number of students graduating from Oregon high schools,
- ♦ provide a more productive and literate workforce,
- ♦ provide an opportunity for adult volunteers to transform young lives, and
- ♦ strengthen the connection between children and their communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Craig Dirksen, Mayor of Tigard, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim:

the week of September 27 – October 1, 2004 as

SMART Week

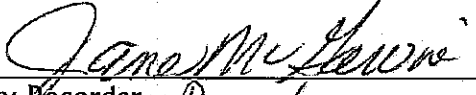
and encourage all Tigard citizens and businesses to join in this observance.

Dated this 28th day of September 2004.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tigard to be affixed.


Craig Dirksen, Mayor
City of Tigard

Attest:


City Recorder, Deputy